



**SARAH S. ANKER**  
Suffolk County Legislator, Sixth District



## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

**INFORMATION RELEASE:**

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# **Local Not-for-Profit Aids Families and Children with Autism Across Suffolk County**



**HUNTINGTON, NY** – Created in 2015 by two Long Island mothers with children on the autism spectrum, the not-for-profit organization Suffolk Asperger's/Autism Support and Information (SASI) seeks to help families with education and advocacy, as well as provide both financial and emotional support. A lack of resources for their children inspired the two mothers, Priscilla Arena and Stephanie Mendelson, to create the organization, which started as a small support group in Mount Sinai and has blossomed into an array of programs and services, as well as a tight-knit online network with over 460 members across Long Island.

SASI's mission is to provide materials to guide families in finding resources, programs and therapies for their children. They aid families in navigating the New York State Office for Persons with Development Disabilities process, as well as provide financial support for necessary services that may not be covered by insurance. The organization also hosts a variety of support groups and events to boost socialization and emotional wellbeing of children on the autism spectrum.

On Saturday, August 27<sup>th</sup>, SASI will host their First Annual Family Fun day at West Hills Day Camp (21 Sweet Hollow Road, Huntington, NY). The event will include a trampoline park, zip lines, a water slide, face painting, temporary tattoos, refreshments and more! The event is free for SASI members with valid a membership card. Cards, which can be used for admission, will be distributed at the event.

For more information, please visit SASI online at [www.sasiny.org](http://www.sasiny.org) or call Legislator Anker's office at 631-854-1600.

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